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## FOR IMMEDIATE PRESS RELEASE

## Blackfeet Community College MTCC Campus Corps Member Spearheads "Warriors Against Meth"

(Missoula, MT)---Montana Campus Compact Campus Corps member, Tana Fleury, formed "Warriors Against Meth" in 2003 as a way educate the public about methamphetamine production and use on the Blackfeet Indian Reservation. Having been a drug user and dealer earlier in her life, Fleury is determined to attack the meth epidemic head on. On March 30, 2007, Fleury organized the inaugural Warriors Against Meth Conference at Blackfeet Community College, which attracted more than 400 community members and provided a forum to explain the complexities of meth on the reservation and in surrounding areas.

"We are proud that one of our Campus Corps members is having such a dramatic impact in her community," said MTCC Executive Director, Dean McGovern. "The U.S. Drug Enforcement Agency in 2007 listed the Blackfeet Reservation as on of the three primary meth locations in Montana, so she's really fighting the war against meth on the frontlines."

Among the groups contributing to the conference were Indian Health Services, Crystal Creek Lodge, Blackfeet Community Hospital, Blackfeet Housing and BCC. The keynote speaker was Steve Juneau of Lamar Association who also presented a workshop called "Strategic Planning and Community Involvement," and addressed the issue of Mexican cartels targeting reservations for meth distribution

MTCC Campus Corps members serve with community organizations such as Big Brothers-Big Sisters, YWCA, Boys and Girls Clubs, and local school districts. These engaged students tutor and mentor school children, create after-school programming for at-risk youth, create and sustain community gardens, and most importantly help organization recruited more volunteers to meet their goals. Program participants receive AmeriCorps education awards at the end of their service terms and the full-time members receive a modest monthly living allowance.

MTCC is a consortium of 19 colleges and universities committed to renewing the public purposes of higher education by promoting curricular and co-curricular service, service-learning, and civic engagement in communities across the state. MTCC administers several programs that benefit Montana's low-income families, school children, elderly, at-risk youth, as well as migrant and minority groups.

For more information, call MTCC Executive Director Dean McGovern at 406-243-5177 or e-mail mcgovern@mtcompact.org. Information about MTCC also is online at <a href="http://www.mtcompact.org">http://www.mtcompact.org</a>.